#### Lower School Academics

# 5th Grade



The mission of Boston Collegiate Charter School is simple yet ambitious: to prepare each student for college.

#### Overview of 5th Grade

As students enter Boston Collegiate from various schools throughout area, the 5th grade curriculum seeks to build a foundation for scholarship and belonging. Students work closely with their teachers to become critical thinkers and advocates for their own education. Through work centered around themes of anti-racism and restorative justice, 5th graders learn to develop and use their own voices to make an impact on their school and community.

#### **Advisory**

Advisors serve as the main advocate and point of contact for a small group of students each year. Meeting daily, students and teachers have a period dedicated to ongoing investment in relationships. This time is used to explore character development, talk through current events, celebrate cultural understandings, and much more.

### Additional Programming

**Focus:** In Focus students engage in work to supplement what they are learning in class, both to provide extra support and acceleration.

**Field Trips:** Students explore learning beyond the school building through trips to the Museum of Science, various college campuses, and more.

## Sample Daily Schedule

	7:45 - 8:20 AM	Morning Advisory
	8:25 - 9:10 AM	English
9	9:15 - 10:00 AM	Science
1	0:05 - 10:50 AM	PE/Art
1	0:55 - 11:15 AM	Lunch
1	1:15 - 11:40 AM	Recess
1	1:40 - 12:30 PM	Focus
	12:35 - 1:20 PM	Explorations
	1:25 - 2:10 PM	Math
	2:15 - 3:00 PM	History
	3:00 - 3:10 PM	Advisory

#### **Grade Level Contacts**

Erica Hafferkamp

Grade Level Lead

ehafferkamp@bostoncollegiate.org

Courtney Smith
Lower School Principal
csmith@bostoncollegiate.org

Our curriculum at Boston Collegiate is based on the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks and is designed to be culturally relevant. Our instruction is focused on engaging all students in deeper learning, enabling them to retain and transfer knowledge through analysis, synthesis, and creation.

## **Mathematics**

Creating the foundation for future levels of mathematics, students develop a strong number sense. The curriculum focuses on understanding and using fractions and decimals, 5th graders synthesize basic concepts into complex equations and word problems centered around real-life applications.

# English

Using novels to guide content instruction, students develop a deep understanding of character development in 5th grade. Instruction focuses on learning who a character is from their actions and how characters respond when faced with challenges. Students produce writings reflecting these themes, articulating how to persist and succeed through adversity. Students engage curiously with *Number the Stars* by Lois Lowry.

## **Explorations**

Fifth Graders get the opportunity to explore rotating courses in the Explorations block. Over the course of the year, they will experience music (ukulele), theatre, and writing. Students prepare to showcase their knowledge at the end of each quarter.

## Science

Students explore the complex world around them, from the minuscule microorganisms of physical sciences to the vast reaches of plants and space. Students become environmental stewards and make connections between their actions and the Earth's context.

## History

Students develop themselves as civic scholars, understanding the dense history of the United States to make an impact on current society. Starting the formation of the colonies and the early Republic, students develop their historical knowledge into the Western expansion and the Civil Rights Movement.

# Specials: Art/PE

Boston Collegiate emphasizes the importance of developing the mind and body in tandem. Students stretch their creative thinking, creating work based on famous artists and artwork. Students strengthen their physical aptitude, focusing on competition and sportsmanship.

